Weekly Provincial Summary

- Seeding operations are wrapping up for the 2012 season in Manitoba. The only remaining acres left to be seeded include greenfeed and millet crops and some isolated acres of canola, edible beans and soybeans.
- Reseeding of some fields is still occurring as stands were impacted by either high winds, insect activity, disease, seed placement or dry soil conditions at time of seeding.
- Most seeded acres have emerged and the condition of most crop types is rated as good, aided by the recent precipitation and return of warmer temperatures.
- Frost was recorded in many areas of Manitoba on May 30. To date, minimal damage to crops has been reported with no reseeding being noted. Injury symptoms were evident in crops such as corn, soybeans, edible beans, canola and oats. Injury was variable, both across the regions and individual fields. Majority of impacted acres have already resumed growth.

Southwest Region

The Southwest Region received little rainfall over the past week but there were reports of isolated thunderstorms with some hail. Frost was recorded on May 30 in some areas with no reports of significant damage.

Seeding in the Southwest Region is essentially complete with only a few fields of greenfeed and millet remaining to be seeded. Most cereal crops have emerged and are progressing well; in-crop weed control has started. Most of the canola crop has emerged. Growing conditions are good and most crops will be sprayed for weed control over the next couple of weeks.

Fall rye is heading. Majority of winter wheat in is in the flag leaf stage and in some cases starting to head. Over the next week application of fungicides for disease control will occur.

Pastures and haylands are doing well and warm weather will benefit growth. Most producers have moved cows to pasture.

Northwest Region

More seasonal temperatures, scattered showers and winds prevailed early in the week in the Northwest Region. Heavier showers in the northern areas added to existing wet field conditions. Only localized soil moisture surpluses are present in other areas. Warming temperatures and drying conditions throughout the rest of the week allowed field operations to resume across most of the region.

Seeding is essentially complete in the Northwest Region, except for a few acres at The Pas. The remaining canola, soybean, greenfeed and hemp acres will be seeded as field conditions improve in the upcoming week.

Rate of plant growth is increasing due to warmer temperatures. Winter wheat is approaching the flag leaf stage and some fall rye acres are heading. Spring wheat development ranges from 90% of acres tillering to 10% in the seedling stages. Canola development is at 15% emerging and 85% at various seedling stages. Around Swan River, localized light frost damage from the May 30 event has become evident on canola. Flax development is at 95% emerged. Increased soybean acres have been planted around the Dauphin and Ste. Rose areas; staging ranges from just seeded to emerged.

Approximately 20 to 25% of in-crop herbicide treatments on spring wheat were completed as field conditions improved. A few periods of high temperatures increased flea beetle activity with some insecticide treatments applied on canola.

Forage and pasture growth improved with the heat and moisture
conditions resulting with livestock being moved to pasture.

Central Region
Most of the Central Region saw scattered showers with minimal accumulations. However, there were areas with higher amounts including 15 mm in Altona, 15 to 25 mm in Pembina, 25 to 30 mm in Portage and up to 50 mm in the Elie, Headingley and Starbuck areas. Storms on June 3 resulted in 40 mm in the northeast part of the region. There was some hail associated with that storm but there are no reports of major damage.

Frost was reported in all areas of the region on May 30 with minimal injury in most cases. Damage seemed to occur in pockets and was variable within fields. Corn was the most visibly affected; leaves were damaged but regrowth is evident. Some damage to soybeans, edible beans, canola and oats was reported but new growth is noticeable. There are no reports of reseeding due to frost. Some reseeding continued over the weekend due to earlier damage to canola by insects and wind, and patchy germination due to dry conditions and deep seeding.

Winter wheat staging ranges from early flag leaf to head emergence. Wheat streak mosaic and barley yellow dwarf continue to be observed. Most fields look lush and thick and monitoring continues for leaf diseases. Fungicide applications have begun.

Late seeded cereals are in the 2 to 3 leaf stage; majority of acres are 4 to 6 leaf and tillering. Herbicide applications continue when weather conditions allow. Stands are generally good although some stand thinning has been observed due to either root rots, deep seeding or stranded seed in dry soil.

Canola ranges from emerging to the 5 and 6 leaf stage, with some fields cabbaging over. Canola continues to be re-seeded in a number of areas due to damage from wind and flea beetles. In some cases, early seeded canola is also being affected by seedling blights. Recent rains have allowed some stands to fill in, especially those where seed placement was an issue. Flea beetles continue to be an issue in some of the later seeded or reseeded fields.

Corn development ranges from emerging to five leaf stage. Some purpling due to stress conditions is evident. Leaves have been damaged by wind and frost damage. Warmer temperatures are allowing the corn crop to recover.

Seeding of the last few acres of edible beans and soybeans is wrapping up. Soybeans are emerging with the majority of acres in the cotyledon to unifoliate stage; some acres are as advanced as the second trifoliate. Emergence has not been uniform in some fields due to the earlier dry conditions, and in some cases deep seeding. Most soybeans were rolled after seeding. Frost did touch some soybeans at the first trifoliate stage but regrowth is noticeable. Frost injury is most evident on fields with heavy straw cover.

Leafhoppers are being found in many winter wheat and canola fields. Control measures are being undertaken in vegetable crops in the Portage area.

The majority of hayfields and pastures are growing well and the warmer temperatures will help maintain good growth. Grasses are starting to head out. Stands are rated as poor in areas around Lake Manitoba that were impacted by excess moisture last year. Most cattle have been moved to pasture and water supply for livestock is adequate in most cases.

Eastern Region
Rainfall accumulations across the Eastern Region last week varied from 4 to 10 mm. On June 3, areas in the southern areas of the region around Dominion City received over 25 mm of rain with hail in localized severe thunderstorms, while areas around Tolstoi received about 12 mm. Topsoil moisture condition on the majority of annual crop land in the Eastern Region is rated as adequate. However, conditions are noted as being wet in northern areas while in the southern there are still areas that have drier conditions.

Frost occurred throughout the region May 30 but overall it seems to have been a light frost with minimal damage. There are still some assessments continuing in some southern and central areas of the region.

Fall seeded cereal stands continue to demonstrate good condition.

Spring seeding progress is estimated at 99% complete. The very last of the soybeans acres are expected to be finished in the next day or two. Cereals are in the seedling to tillering stages with some stem elongation occurring in barley. Most of the canola is also in the seedling stage with some early seeded crop beginning rosette development. Flax and field peas
are also in the seedling to vegetative stages. Sunflowers are in the cotyledon to vegetative stages. About 50% of soybeans acres are moving through the cotyledon/unifoliate leaf growth stages with the balance of the crop emerging. Most of the corn crop is in the V1 to V5 stage. In general, the condition of annual crops is rated as good.

Flea beetles in canola continue to be a concern on early seeded canola, producers will be monitoring the situation; some spraying has occurred. Cutworms in sunflower, corn and canola crops also were detected and some spraying occurred. Cutworm damage is very sporadic.

Many producers will continue to focus on weed control applications in the coming week. As spraying of spring cereals ends, growers will move into other crop types including canola. Some weed control in corn, sunflowers, soybean and flax has occurred and will continue this week. Spraying by plane is occurring where field access by ground rig is difficult.

The condition of the majority of hayland in northern areas is rated as fair to good while in southern areas most hayland is rated as fair to poor. Pasture conditions across the region are generally rated as fair to good although in southern areas, most pastureland is rated as fair to poor.

**Interlake Region**

Scattered showers fell through the week with moderate accumulations in most areas. Isolated showers on June 1 dropped up to 20 mm on areas in the south near Teulon. An intense system passed over the northeast portion of the RM of Bifrost north and west of Riverton on June 3. Hail and heavy rain fell damaging crops and leaving water standing on fields. Up to 25 to 30 mm of rain is reported to have fallen on these areas over the span of about an hour.

Frost was experienced on May 30 over much of the region. Little crop damage has been reported due to this event, although some stands of alfalfa, canola and soybeans were affected.

Seeding of soybeans and canola resumed mid week, with most crop seeding complete in the Interlake Region. Crop stages are as follows: winter wheat is in flag leaf, spring wheat at 3 to 5 leaf, canola at seedling to 4 leaf and soybeans emerging to first trifoliate.

Herbicide application on winter wheat and annual crops is general across the region although weather did cause delays during the week. Flea beetle scouting on canola fields continues as feeding activity is noticeable.

Forage and forage seed crops have progressed rapidly with warmer daytime temperatures. Frost did impact some alfalfa crops in the north-west areas. Dairy producers will begin first cut operations in the coming days. Pastures have also improved with warmer weather and most cattle are on grass pastures. In areas around Lake Manitoba that were impacted by excess moisture in 2011, the forage and pasturelands have had little recovery and there will be restricted use of these lands in 2012.